

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 1 as follows:

Also, even when multiple client terminals (multiple users) access a particular channel so that a conversation is established among these users, if information that none of the users holds becomes to be referred by the chatting user, they have to retrieve such information with tools other than the chat system, such as Web browsers, etc. Also, in case that an urgent contact to another user who does not access the channel is required, such a contact needs to be made through communication method other than the chat system. These procedures ~~were~~ are very inconvenient for users participating real time conversation, and may deteriorate efficiency of the conversation. This is the third problem of the conventional art.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 12, line 2 as follows:

FIG. 1 is a block diagram showing a schematic configuration of a chat system according to the present preferred embodiment. As shown in FIG. 1, this chat system is constructed of a chat server 1, a plurality of client terminals 2A through 2C, a dummy client device 3, and a plurality of back-end servers 4. The plurality of client terminals 2A-2C is configured to be capable of communicating with the chat server 1 through Internet N (in accordance with ~~IRP~~ IRC protocol). The back-end servers 4 are configured to be capable of communicating with the dummy client device 3 through the Internet N.